

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MBFR V 00244 201746Z

53

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

----- 092098

P 201710Z SEP 74

FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0416

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0244

EXDIS NOFORN

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: TEMPO OF NATO GUIDANCE TO AD HOC GROUP

1. AS WASHINGTON AGENCIES KNOW, THE NATO AD HOC GROUP ASSEMBLED IN VIENNA THIS WEEK TO DECIDE ON ITS TACTICS FOR THE FALL SESSION. THE FIRST OF THE INFORMAL SESSIONS WITH WARSAW PACT REPRESENTATIVES, IN WHICH THE REAL BUSINESS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS IS DONE, WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 22. ASIDE FROM THE ISSUE OF REDUCING NUCLEAR WEAPONS, WHICH REMAINS UNDER CONSIDERATION IN WASHINGTON, THE DELEGATION'S PROPOSED TACTICS (CONTAINED IN VIENNA 0211) RECEIVED GENERAL APPROVAL DURING WASHINGTON CONSULTATIONS. FORMAL INSTRUCTIONS TO THE DELEGATION ARE STILL PENDING. DELEGATION TACTICS ARE BASED ON THE CONCEPT THAT IF, AT ALL POSSIBLE, WE SHOULD AIM FOR AN AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE BY THE LATE SPRING OF 1975 AND THAT THE FALL SESSION OF THE TALKS SHOULD BE USED AS FAR AS POSSIBLE TO PREPARE THE GROUND FOR RAPID MOVEMENT IN THE WINTER SESSION BEGINNING IN EARLY JANUARY AND TO TAKE ACTIONS NOW WHICH WILL ROUND OUT THE ALLIED NEGOTIATING POSITION TO AVOID BEING CAUGHT IN TIME PRESSURES IN THE SPRING. TO CARRY OUT THIS APPROACH, THE ALLIES IN VIENNA SHOULD CONTINUE TO DEVELOP THEIR POSITION IN A DELIBERATE AND ORDERLY WAY, AS THE AD HOC GROUP HAS SUGGESTED TO THE NATO COUNCIL IN ITS JULY 23 REPORT.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MBFR V 00244 201746Z

2. MOST OF THE STEPS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE GENERAL POSITION APPROVED BY WASHINGTON STILL REQUIRE IMPLEMENTATION BY WASHINGTON AGENCIES AND DECISION BY THE ALLIES AT NATO. SOME WASHINGTON INPUT ON INDIVIDUAL QUESTIONS HAS NOT BEEN AVAILABLE BECAUSE OF CONCENTRATION ON DECIDING THE NUCLEAR ISSUES A CONCENTRATION WHICH THE DELEGATION FOR ITS PART REQUESTED.

3. USNATO HAS BEEN ENERGETIC IN TRYING TO MEET THE DEADLINES FOR DECISIONS PROPOSED IN THE AD HOC GROUP REPORT OF 23 JULY. DESPITE ITS EFFORTS, NO GUIDANCE ON THE ISSUES RAISED IN THAT REPORT HAS AS YET REACHED THE AD HOC GROUP AND PREPARATORY WORK ON A NUMBER OF THE ISSUES IS STILL TO BE DONE. GIVEN THE US LEADERSHIP POSITION IN THIS NEGOTIATION, THIS SITUATION REFLECTS THE NEED FOR INSTRUCTIONS FROM WASHINGTON.

4. BUT IT ALSO REFLECTS A LOW SENSE OF URGENCY ON THE PART OF OUR ALLIES BOTH AS TO THE RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF THE MBFR PROJECT; THE ALLIES' NEGATIVE VIEW OF THE PROSPECTS FOR PROGRESS IN THE PRESENT ROUND; AN INCLINATION TO EXPECT THE EAST TO PAY IMMEDIATELY IN KIND FOR EACH STEP MADE BY THE WEST, AND THE FEELING BY SOME ALLIES, PARTICULARLY THE FRG, THAT THE ALLIES ARE NOT UNDER TIME PRESSURE.

5. THESE VIEWS HAVE BEEN NOTICEABLE IN COMMENTS FROM OFFICIALS IN NATIONAL CAPITALS, AT NATO AND IN THE AD HOC GROUP. IN THE FIRST AD HOC GROUP SESSION ON SEPTEMBER 18 FOLLOWING THE SUMMER BREAK, THE FRG, UK, CANADIAN AND ITALIAN REPRESENTATIVES ALL STATED THAT THEIR AUTHORITIES SAW LITTLE OR NO PROSPECT FOR PROGRESS IN THE PRESENT ROUND OF THE TALKS AND INDICATED THAT THEIR AUTHORITIES DID NOT CONSIDER THAT THE SITUATION CALLED FOR MUCH ACTIVITY ON THE PART OF THE ALLIES. WE POINTED OUT THAT, IF COMMUNICATED TO THE EAST, THIS ATTITUDE COULD SERIOUSLY UNDERMINE THE WESTERN NEGOTIATING POSITION. INEVITABLY, IT ALSO EFFECTS THE URGENCY AND INTEREST WITH WHICH ALLIED REPRESENTATIVES IN CAPITALS AND AT NATO DEAL WITH PROPOSALS FOR DECISION.

6. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, WE BELIEVE SOME ACTION TO COUNTER THIS RATHER NEGATIVE APPROACH IS CALLED FOR. SINCE THE USG WISHES TO AVOID COMMUNICATING ANY GENERALIZED SENSE OF URGENCY TO THE ALLIES, BECAUSE OF THE RISK OF LEAKS TO THE EAST, WE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 MBFR V 00244 201746Z

BELIEVE THAT WHAT CAN BE DONE IS FOR WASHINGTON AGENCIES TO PROVIDE US NATO WITH GUIDANCE WHICH WILL ENABLE IT TO PUT SOME STEAM BEHIND THE INDIVIDUAL ISSUES ON WHICH THE ALLIES ARE WORKING AT NATO AND FOR WASHINGTON OFFICIALS WHO DEAL WITH ALLIED OFFICIALS ON MBFR TO CONVEY TO THEM A SENSE OF US DETERMINATION TO MAINTAIN THE INITIATIVE ON MBFR AND TO CONTINUE PRESSING THE SOVIETS FOR SOME SPECIFIC POSITIVE REACTIONS. RESOR

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INSTRUCTIONS, MUTUAL FORCE REDUCTIONS, NEGOTIATIONS, MEETING DELEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MBFRV00244
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740265-0050
From: MBFR VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740928/aaaaaxiz.tel
Line Count: 114
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAR 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <21 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR: TEMPO OF NATO GUIDANCE TO AD HOC GROUP
TAGS: PARM, NATO
To: STATE DOD
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005